

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A microorganism cotransformed with a plasmid vector containing a gene expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein, and a plasmid vector containing HIV psi (ψ) gene sequence and β -galactosidase a reporter gene located downstream of the HIV psi (ψ) sequence.
2. (Original) The microorganism of claim 1 wherein the plasmid vector containing a gene expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein is pJCl.
3. (Currently Amended) The microorganism of claim 1 wherein the HIV psi (ψ) gene sequence is selected from the group consisting of SL1234 (SEQ ID NO: 2), SL234 (SEQ ID NO: 5), SL23 (SEQ ID NO: 4), and SL12 (SEQ ID NO: 3).
4. Canceled.
5. Canceled.
6. Canceled.

7. (Currently Amended) The microorganism of claim 4 22 wherein the β -galactosidase reporter gene is SEQ ID NO: 1.

8. (Currently Amended) The microorganism of claim 4 7 wherein the plasmid vector containing HIV psi(ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of pNHIPsi(SL1234), pNHIPsi(SL234), pNHIPsi(SL23), pNHIPsi(SL12), and pNHIPsi(SL34).

9. Canceled

10. Canceled

11. Canceled

12. (Currently Amended) *E. coli* JM109 (KCCM-10194) cotransformed with a vector pJC1 expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein, and a vector pNHIPsi(SL1234) containing HIV psi(ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence.

13. (Currently Amended) A microorganism cotransformed with a vector pJC1 expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein, and a vector pNHIPsi(SL234) containing HIV psi (ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ)

sequence.

14. (Currently Amended) A microorganism cotransformed with a vector pJC1 expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein, and a vector pNHIPsi(SL23) containing HIV psi (ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence.

15. (Currently Amended) A microorganism cotransformed with a vector pJC1 expressing HIV nucleocapsid protein, and a vector pNHIPsi(SL12) containing HIV psi (ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence.

16. (Currently Amended) A microorganism transformed with a vector pNHIPsi(SL1234) containing HIV psi (ψ) gene and β -galactosidase reporter ~~gene~~ sequence (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence.

17. (Currently Amended) A microorganism wherein both a plasmid vector containing a gene coding for HIV nucleocapsid protein and a plasmid vector containing HIV psi (ψ) ~~gene~~ sequence and β -galactosidase reporter gene (SEQ ID NO : 1) located downstream of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence are integrated into a chromosome.

18. (Original) A method for screening HIV packaging inhibitors which comprises the steps of :

- (i) culturing the cotransformed microorganism of claim 1;
- (ii) treating the said cotransformed microorganism with putative compounds or compositions of HIV inhibitors; and,
- (iii) measuring the degree of change in β -galactosidase expression in the culture.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~24~~ 18 wherein the cotransformed microorganism is *E. coli* JM109 (KCCM-10194).

20. Canceled

21. (New) The microorganism of claim 1, wherein the β -galactosidase reporter gene expression is downregulated by the interaction of the HIV psi(ψ) sequence with HIV nucleocapsid protein.

22. (New) The microorganism of claim 1, wherein the reporter gene is β -galactosidase.